MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 JUNE 1982

Israeli Invasion of Lebanon

New Cease-Fire, Military Situation -- After a day in which Israeli and Syrian forces engaged in heavy exchanges of fire along the Damascus-Beirut highway and Israeli planes struck at Syrian positions, Israeli and Syrian forces ceased firing at 1900 local time, Jerusalem radio reported. Following telephone contacts between Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich and Prime Minister Menahem Begin, the Israelis accepted U.S. envoy Philip Habib's request for a cease-fire, on condition that the Syrians also hold their fire, the radio noted. In Washington, Begin pledged the IDF would also observe the cease-fire with the "terrorists" in Beirut if they likewise stopped firing, according to the radio. Despite the new cease-fire, an advancing Syrian force clashed with the IDF east of Lake al-Qir'awn early on 23 June, losing two dead, IDF radio reported citing the IDF spokesman.

While a Syrian military spokesman cited by Monte Carlo radio said the Israelis had been responsible for the renewed clashes on 22 June, the IDF spokesman said "provocation by the Syrian Army and the terrorists" had led to the resumption of the fighting, ITIM noted. In a subsequent statement carried by ITIM, the IDF spokesman said that in the course of the fighting the air force destroyed Syrian artillery batteries and the IDF suffered 47 casualties. A military statement broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio claimed that the IDF lost 8 tanks, 12 armored cars and 100 casualties in its attempt to advance toward Al-Mansuriyah and Bhamdun. Israeli artillery and aircraft again pounded south and west Beirut during 22 June, according to Beirut radio.

Israeli Intentions -- Israel rejects a PLO demand that it move the IDF 5 km from Beirut as a precondition to the PLO retreating to the refugee camps and turning Palestinian strongholds over to the Lebanese Army, Jerusalem radio reported citing a reliable source in Beirut. According to the radio, the National Salvation Council discussed this proposal and transmitted it to Israel through U.S. envoy Philip Habib. However, Palestinian sources cited by Beirut radio said that Saudi Arabia has informed the PLO of "Israel's approval through the United States" of a 5-km disengagement around Beirut.

Noting that the Phalangists in Beirut have proved unwilling to carry out the "final mopping-up operation" themselves, Jerusalem radio cited a UPI report that Israel has moved heavy cannon, ammunition and ambulances toward Beirut, indicating preparations for an assault on the city.

In an interview reported by IDF radio, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said the PLO, which has been dealt a "mortal blow" and will "never rise again," must be eradicated from the Middle East landscape.

Begin Talks in U.S. -- Israel and the United States agree on three principles regarding an arrangement in Lebanon, Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Israeli Prime Minister Begin stated following their talks in Washington, Jerusalem radio reported. The points involved: the removal of all foreign forces from Lebanon; the creation of security conditions that would prevent attacks on Israel; and Lebanese sovereignty over all its territory. Asked during a meeting with Israeli reporters what kind of agreement had been reached with the United States regarding the establishment of a multinational force in southern Lebanon and about U.S. participation in it, Begin said the U.S. response to the force is positive in principle, IDF radio reported. However, he cautioned that no decision had been made yet. Regarding U.S. participation in the force, Begin said some further consideration is required although he noted that Reagan did not turn down the suggestion.

While describing his talks with Reagan and Haig as very warm and friendly, Begin added that there were certain remarks that he could not agree with and had to react to, Jerusalem radio reported.

National Salvation Council -- After a 22 Jun National Salvation Council meeting, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio that the council had made important progress and had agreed on a stance that could be the start of "the required solution." In other remarks reported by the radio, Al-Wazzan noted that contacts with the Palestinians had led to the crystallization of a Lebanese stand which has been communicated to U.S. envoy Habib. The radio also reported that Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt said serious consultations on resolving the Beirut crisis are dependent on the consolidation of the cease-fire. Unless the United States can guarantee the cease-fire, Junblatt indicated, it would be useless for him to attend the next National Salvation Council meeting.

Syrian ADF Mandate -- The Lebanese Government has officially informed the Arab League and the United Nations that it will not renew the mandate of the Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces (ADF) in Lebanon, Voice of Lebanon radio reported citing a U.S. television interview with the Lebanese ambassador to the United Nations. Noting that the Lebanese Government has been on record for over 1 and 1/2 years as being opposed to any foreign presence, the ambassador said his government aspires to the establishment of a Lebanon that belongs to the Lebanese alone. However, according to Beirut radio, the ambassador subsequently said reports of his interview had been distorted. He noted that when asked in the television interview whether Lebanon has requested a Syrian withdrawal, he observed that over 1 year ago Lebanon presented to the Arab Followup Committee a plan providing for the gradual replacement of the ADF by the Lebanese Army.

Iranian Forces in Lebanon -- Once the Iran-Iraq war is "sorted out," Iran will definitely send a major part of its forces to Lebanon to sort out the situation there, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i said in an interview broadcast by Tehran radio.

PLO Appeal -- PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi has called on Arab countries to cut off oil supplies to the United States and to withdraw their assets from U.S. banks, WAKH reported. He added that the Israeli siege of Beirut is a "serious and unprecedented matter that the Arabs cannot disregard." Qaddumi said the Arabs must take every possible political, economic or military measure, for however long the conflict continues, so they can preserve their dignity.

Egyptian-Palestinian Relations

The Palestinian National Salvation Movement has called for the establishment of a provisional Palestinian government to be based in Cairo, according to an AL-AHRAM report cited by MENA. The paper said the organization has called on Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa to hold urgent consultations to form a national coalition government comprised of all Palestinian factions, including the PLO. The paper added that the movement's spokesman thanked President Husni Mubarak for welcoming the idea of a Palestinian government in Cairo.

Jordan

King Husayn departed for Moscow on 23 June to start an official visit to the Soviet Union, KUNA reported. Husayn will hold extensive talks with Soviet leaders on bilateral relations and the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, according to official Jordanian sources cited by KUNA.

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YAQUB KHAN, CORDOVEZ CONTINUE TALKS IN GENEVA

BK230555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Cordovez, continued their discussions on the agenda of the indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva yesterday.

A spokesman for the Pakistani delegation said that the preliminary exchange took place in the closed-door discussion on the lines along which a solution of the Afghanistan problem could be brought about. The spokesman said that Pakistan's position and certain concerns in this regard were clearly conveyed.

The members of the Kabul delegation had a day off yesterday. Discussion between Cordovez and the two delegations will be resumed today.

Earlier, Cordovez hosted a dinner in honor of Pakistan's foreign minister. A spokesman of the Pakistani delegation said that on that occasion they had informal discussions on the Afghanistan problem.

IRAN DENIES PARTICIPATION IN UN AFGHAN TALKS

LD212036 Tehran IRNA in English 1912 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Text] Tehran, 21 Jun (IRNA) -- The Foreign Affairs Ministry's denial concerning the alleged participation of an Iranian representative in the talks held by the United Nations on the issue of Afghanistan was released today.

The weekly, UN ACTIVITIES, printed in Geneva, in its June 14th issue, discussing the issue of Afghanistan had reported that the Iranian representative participated in the talks.

The Iranian permanent representative to the UN European bureau in Geneva, releasing the denial, stressed the previous position taken by the Islamic Republic on the issue of Afghanistan. He reiterated that talks would not be acceptable without withdrawal of the occupying Soviet forces, the return of millions of Afghan refugees to their homeland, the right of the Afghans to determine their own destiny and participation of the real representatives of the Muslim people of Afghanistan, i.e. the mujahidin (Islamic warriors), in the talks.

In the absence of these conditions, the talks would not lead anywhere, the statement said.

AFP: RESISTANCE HITTINC BACK AT OFFENSIVES

BK221412 Hong Kong AFP in English 1324 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Islamabad, June 22 (AFP) -- Afghan Moslem resistance fighters have hit back sharply against offensives by Soviet and Afghan troops in various parts of Afghanistan, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

In the Panjsher Valley, 100 kms (65 miles) northeast of Kabul, dozens of trucks carrying the bodies of government or Soviet soldiers have left the area where fighting is raging, according to reports from diplomats in the Afghan capital.

A long convoy of militiamen from Kabul was attacked on its way to the Panjsher and largely wiped out, the sources said.

Reports reaching Kabul confirmed an accout by French writer Gerard Chalian, who returned here yesterday from a clandestine stay in Afghanistan. He said the only government presence in the valley was a series of fortified Afghan Army posts that would be difficult to defend in totally hostile surroundings.

After four weeks of an offensive t.. has cost dear in men and equipment, the Soviet troops seem to have returned to their garrisons giving only air support to the Afghan Army.

In Maidan, administrative capital of Vardak Province south of Kabul, resistance fighters from the liberal Mahaz-e-Milli Party inflicted losses on a military convoy on the road leading to Lowgar Province, the diplomats said.

Government reinforcements were brought in to search the farms around Maidan. A messenger of the party who arrived in Pakistan yesterday said 42 civilians had been killed.

The sources said resistance fighters in Kabul Province had resorted to "extreme methods" against the inhabitants of Deh Sabz village near Kabul airport, where villagers had accepted land given out by the government under the agricultural reform programme.

On June 12 the local chief of the official Afghan People's Democratic Party, Habib Zalmai, was shot dead and mujahidin fighters mutilated two farmers described as "collaborators" by cutting off their noses and one ear.

In Kabul, nine supporters of the regime have been assassinated during the past week. They include a university professor, Nur Mohammad Ghanjan, who had just announced he had joined the party.

FORCES 'CRUSH' REBELS IN TAKHAR, KONARHA

GF221900 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] A group of counterrevolutionaries and enemies of the nation and progress has been crushed by security forces and revolution fighters in Takhar and Konarha Provinces in northeastern Afghanistan. The leader of the group was arrested in Takhar Province.

A spokesman for the province's security forces said that various weapons, antipersonnel and antitank mines, and a large amount of ammunition were seized.

FEDERAL COUNCIL DENOUNCES ISRAELI 'AGGRESSION'

GF221130 Karachi DAWN in English 20 Jun 82 p 1

[Excerpts] Islamabad, June 19 -- The Federal Council (Majlis-i-Shoora) today expressed its great indignation over the blatant and brutal Israeli aggression in Lebanon, which has cost thousands of innocent lives. The shoora was also deeply distressed by the fact that the world community has been unable to take necessary measures to force the Zionist entity to stop the cold-blooded massacre of the defenceless civilian population in Lebanon.

About 40 speakers, who participated in the resolution condemning the Israeli aggression, emphasised the need for action and unity among the Muslim nations.

They said that the Israeli expansionism could not be dealt with unless the Muslims made concerted efforts to fight off the enemy who was supported by the super powers of the world.

The speakers also called for forging a joint defence programme in the light of the proposal to the effect by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. They also said that the Muslims should express their resentment by boycotting the Jewish products being sold in the Muslim countries.

The speakers also felt that the United Nations had not been able to deliver goods and had not been able to make any positive contribution in stopping the Israeli aggression in Lebanon, which fact called for strengthening an international body of the Muslim countries, which could bring about peace and justice to prevail.

The resolution, which was adopted with several amendments by the members of the shoora, besides condemning the aggression called upon the United Nations to impose sanctions against Israel to bring about the implementation of the United Nations Resolution Nos. 508 and 509 of June 5 and 6, 1982.

It also called upon the Islamic Conference to discharge its historic duties by forging a joint action against Israel.

The resolution also appealed to the Islamic world to sink their internal differences for the realisation of the proposal of joint defence against Israel.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER KILLED IN RAWALPINDI

BK221606 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed deep grief and sorrow over the sudden and tragic death of (Malik Shahzada Khan Halimzai), a member of the Advisory Council, who was shot dead by unidentified armed men in Rawalpindi this afternoon.

In a condolence message to (Mirzada Khan Halimzai), eldest son of the deceased, the president said that late (Shahzada Khan) was a prominent politician and an active social worker of the Mohmand Agency. He took a very active part in the Pakistan movement and rendered very valuable services for the stability and progress of Pakistan. The president said that the late (Malik Shahzada Khan Halimzai) was a great patriot and he sacrificed his life while serving the dear homeland. The president has expressed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and prayed for the deceased.

The Northwest Frontier Province governor, Lt Gen Fazle Haq, also expressed condolences over the death of (Malik Shahzada Khan).

A personal bodyguard of (Malik Shahzada Khan) was also killed as a result of the shooting; another was injured.

Official sources have told the Radio Pakistan correspondent that it seems that he was killed due to an old family feud in the tribal areas.

A son of the deceased, (Abdul Wahid Khan), said that since the murder was committed because of tribal hostilities they do not want a post-mortem. The driver of the deceased said that a car followed them and when their car stopped at a traffic signal at (Rahmanabad), three persons left the other car and fired revolvers at (Malik) and his bodyguards. The bodyguard retaliated but he was too late and within a few seconds (Malik) and his bodyguard succumbed to their injuries.

26 ARRESTED FOR DEMONSTRATING IN KARACHI

BK230551 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Jun 82

[Text] The Sind government has issued a pressnote which says that a group of 40 to 50 political workers tried to take out a procession in Karachi yesterday afternoon. They were holding placards and shouting slogans. They were asked to disperse as they were violating the ban on organizing procession. According to the pressnote, they refused to disperse and hence 26 persons, including 6 women, were arrested. All were released that evening, except one person, Nafees Siddiqui, who was wanted by the police.

70 STRIKING DOCTORS DETAINED IN PESHAWAR

BK211609 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Text] A pressnote has been issued in Peshawar today which stated that while the doctors of Sind and Punjab ended their strike following an understanding with the government on their demands, house officers and other doctors in Peshawar are continuing their strike and are not attending even severely ill patients, as a result of which the patients as well as their relatives are facing unbearable hardships. The government has issued a notice to house officers to vacate the hostel, which they resisted.

The pressnote recalled that the provincial government has provided maximum facilities to doctors in hospitals performing house job duties. However, according to the pressnote, house officers are taking no interest in their training and at the same time are placing obstacles in the functioning of the hospitals.

The pressnote added that the provincial government was left with no alternative but to evict them from the hostels; 70 of them have been detained. The pressnote further said that situation is now fully under control.

PAKISTANIS, AFGHAN REFUGEES CLASH IN NWFP

BK220953 Hong Kong AFP in English 1403 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Text] Islamabad, June 21 (AFP) -- Over 100 people were killed in a tribal war in Pakistan's Northwestern Frontier Province [NWFP] of Parachinar, a delegation from the Tori tribe reported here today.

They said the Tori -- the only Shi'ite majority Pashtu tribe -- were attacked by a dozen Sunni communities and groups of Afghan refugees after the Afghans occupied Tori lands.

A Shi'ite mosque was demolished and about 100 houses were burned down by thousands of attackers -- mainly Afghans -- wielding automatic weapons, rocket launchers and mortars, the Tori spokesman said.

They added that a 50-day truce had been concluded, but criticised the Pakistani Government, saying the fighting could have been prevented "if the necessary measures had been taken beforehand."

A similar tribal war broke out last year between the Tori and the neighboring Mengal tribe over wood-chopping rights in a forest claimed by both communities.

KHAMENE'I INTERVIEWED ON DEFENSE COUNCIL SESSION

LD222324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The Supreme Defense Council held a session tonight chaired by Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and head of the Supreme Defense Council. In this session, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council; Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister; Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, the chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Colonel Salimi, the defense minister; Mohsen Reza'i, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Shamkhani, the deputy commander of the Guards Corps; Kamal Gharazi, the supervisor of the War Publicity Staff; Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs; Gharzai, the oil minister; Captain Afzali, the commander of the navy; and two air force commanders were present. During this session, after reviewing the latest reports from the battlefronts, and after a discussion and investigation of the latest actions taken by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime, decisions were made on future plans and battle operations.

At the end of this session, Mr Khamene'i, head of the Supreme Defense Council, in an interview with Central News Unit correspondent, explained the issues raised in this session:

[Begin recording] [Khamene'i] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. During tonight's session, various issues were raised, all of which were important. As usual, first there was a report from the battlefronts. It was reported that Abadan and some western cities are under Iraqi artillery fire. As it was explained, Abadan had a particularly hard day and came under intense fire.

There was another report about Qasr-e Shirin. An aerial photograph of Qasr-e Shirin was shown. A comparison between this photograph and other photographs of the city taken before the war really causes great distress. There is nothing left of this once-prosperous city. The aerial photographs show that they have destroyed 90 percent of the city.

Exchanges of fire continued on both southern and western fronts. Iraqis are carrying out some movements in the southern sector and are consolidating their defensive positions. They are digging canals and doing other things. These things were reported.

[Question] As you are aware, during his recent remarks Saddam referred to the withdrawal of his troops within the next few days; in your view, what goal is the Iraqi regime pursuing by making such announcements and, in case of a withdrawal, what future actions will be taken by the combatants of Islam?

[Answer] Saddam's claims on this issue in general are insincere. First, they claim this withdrawal is (?taking place). Yes, they may have retreated in some places. But first they demolish a place before they withdraw from it. The same was true of their destruction when they launched the attack on Iran. When they invaded the territory of our homeland, they destroyed every place they entered. In the same way they are now destroying places before leaving. They destroy, demolish and blow up places before departure. What is happening in our western cities is exactly the same as what occurred in Khorramshahr, Hoveyzeh, Hamid and some other cities. They have almost completely destroyed Qasr-e Shirin. Certainly, Sumar, Naftshahr and all other cities of the west are in no better shape.

Second, this withdrawal, even if they tell the truth and retreat, from our point of view does not mean peace and peace loving. Iraq knows that if it continues the war here, it will suffer another 30-40,000 dead and the same number of prisoners, and will be forced to leave our borders that way.

Certainly, if the Iraqi forces clash with Iranian forces in the west and in the Ilam sector or any other place, they will not have a better fate than they had in Khorramshahr, Hoveyzeh and in the western sector of Karun. If they decide to retreat, it will be because they want to save themselves further casualties inflicted by the Iranian forces. They also want to prepare for another attack.

Of course, I would like to repeat what I said -- that this claim for complete withdrawal is a mere claim; such a claim is not true. Saddam is trying to save some of his lost political prestige in the world. In order to show other countries, which keep babbling about peace, that he is peace-loving, he has formally claimed that he is pulling out his forces. They have made several such claims so far, but none were put into action. The claim of a withdrawal is the same as his other claims.

Of course, our reply vis-a-vis this claim of Saddam's is this: Well, when an aggressive (?power) invades a country's territory, it must withdraw. If it does not withdraw, it will be forced to do so, as we have proven. During this (?war, the army of) Islam, we inflicted some blows on them and forced them to retreat from major territories after suffering some losses and damage. But this withdrawal is not [a solution to] all the problems. The problem is that Saddam was the aggressor. They invaded our territory and they confess to this. They destroyed some cities and inflicted heavy damages. Estimates indicate that the damages they have inflicted so far, although no exact figure is available, are very heavy. Once I mentioned a rough estimate of the damages. These reparations must be guaranteed. We will remain in a state of war if they are not guaranteed.

Saddam's claim of being peace-loving will be justified if he withdraws and if his artillery forces stop pounding our cities, and if his planes halt their attacks on our cities.

Every day 10 to 20 of his planes, more or less, attack our cities. They continue pounding our prosperous and populated cities and their defenseless citizens.

He must also pay reparations. When all this is done, it will become clear that Saddam does not want the war to continue. If this is not done, then we cannot be certain he is interested in ending the war. He still wishes to be given an opportunity to regain his political credibility and (?prepare) for another attack.

[Question] As you mentioned, Saddam's mercenaries are repeatedly pounding our cities with artillery fire and planes; what actions will our combatants take to silence the enemy artillery fire?

[Answer] Of course, we announced that we cannot remain in a state of no war and no peace, when our cities come under repeated enemy fire. But we will not resort to similar action. We will not shell any Iraqi city. We have not shelled any Iraqi city so far either. We have not brought misery to its people and we have not made them homeless. I know that we will remain this way in the future. Therefore, we have to take some measures to silence the enemy fire, and for this purpose we will do whatever is necessary.

[Question] As you may well know Zionist and imperialist quarters during the past few days have made announcements to the effect that Iran is pursuing so-called propaganda aims by dispatching forces to Lebanon and that Syria does not have any inclination to wage war against the Zionist aggressors. In your opinion, what aims are these quarters pursuing in making this sort of propaganda?

[Answer] We cannot expect anything but lies from Zionist quarters. If they were to tell the truth and if they were to relate the facts, then we would be surprised. So we are not surprised when they say these things.

Syria wishes to wage this war, we have no doubt that Syria wishes to wage war against the Zionists and against the usurping enemy, and Syria will wage this war. We, too, previously declared this and have now proved by deeds and we hope, God willing, that we will further prove that the duty of waging war against Israel, just as the imam graciously said yesterday, is a religious duty (?and this is why we resorted to this deed).

There is so much fighting that in our analysis they came and started this war [against Lebanon] in order perhaps to force us to dispatch our major forces there from here. Of course, we will never do such a thing; we will never send our major forces to Lebanon. So long as we cannot conclude and settle this war here we will not dispatch our major forces there.

Of course, once this war [against Iraq] is sorted out we will definitely send a major part of our forces there, and there too we will sort out the situation. Certainly that part of our forces which we have decided to send to Lebanon will participate in the war and will undoubtedly deliver telling blows.

We do not have any views about the propaganda effect of this situation. This is the message of our revolution, our revolution necessitates this, and we will not achieve complete victory until we push Israel out of occupied Palestine.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much. [end recording]

MONTAZERI COMMENTS ON EXPOSING ZIONIST 'CRIMES'

LD221752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi met with Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom this afternoon. During this meeting, in connection with repulsing the aggression of the criminal Zionist regime against Lebanon and Palestine, Ayatollah Montazeri said: As the illustrious leader of the revolution has emphasized, the only access for us [to Syria and Lebanon] is through Iraqi territory. Certainly the Muslims of the world, especially the Muslim Iraqi nation, would regard our nation and government as fully justified in going this route, which is the nearest and (?the most natural) route.

Continuing, Ayatollah Montazeri said: We are sure that in this calculated move the Muslim Iraqi nation will assist us and will join with us.

Concerning the exposure of Zionist crimes and about sending Iranian delegations to other Islamic countries, he said: Although the main issue facing our government and nation is to repel the aggression of the American regime of Iraq, nevertheless the problem of Al-Quds concerns all the Muslims of the world, including the Iranian and Iraqi nations. It is appropriate that simultaneous with the heroic deeds of the brave forces of Islam on the fronts of the imposed war, we also expose Israel's crimes to the Muslims and the Muslim ulema throughout the world and to prepare them for a great march on the Al-Aqsa Mosque [in Jerusalem].

In conclusion, thanking the prime minister for providing the means for sending Islamic delegations to other countries, Ayatollah Montazeri said the fact that these trips take place during the holy month of Ramadan and international Al-Quds day is very suspicious.

RAFSANJANI ON CONTINUED EFFORTS AGAINST IRAQ

LD221156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that an open session of the Islamic Majlis was held this morning, chaired by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. At the session the speaker delivered a speech in which he said:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The slogan "The way to Al-Quds passes through Karbala'" is accepted by all of us and [words indistinct] that solving the problem of 'Aflaq's Ba'thist Party in Iraq and that only by removing this obstacle and rejoining the (?eastern) front will we be able to do anything important on the Israeli borders, [words indistinct] the problem of finding a way to send forces.

All the plots hatched by the superpowers, reactionaries of the region and the 'Aflaqi Ba'thist Party were exposed by the imam's program announced in his speech yesterday. Especially Saddam's extremely odd speech which, like someone who chants slogans while running away, was both intended to boost the morale of his forces and was an effort to save face for the Iraqi nation after the disgraces he had brought upon them.

By taking a meek and peace-loving position, he tried to stop us from seeking our rights. But with the imam's speech and his decisive position our way is once again clear. We do not want anything but our rights in Iraq.

We will not withdraw our claims to our rights which are the rights of Islam, the rights of the deprived people of the region and the Muslims inside Iraq.

We draw the attention of our youths and especially our combatants to the point that the blessed month of Ramadan is the month of victory for Islam and the annihilation of blasphemy. We had the great Badr victory [referring to dawn of Islam, one of the battles fought by the prophet] and hopefully with your presence in the scene, another Badr will happen in the new dawn of the history of Islam. [end recording]

SAYYAD SHIRAZI PLEDGES WAR WILL CONTINUE

LD221640 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Esfahan, June 22 IRNA -- The commander of the Islamic Republic's Ground Forces, Colonel Sayyad Shirazi, proposed that the country's officials keep the evidence of Saddam's crimes intact in Khorramshahr as a war memorial.

Colonel Sayyad Shirazi, who was talking at the commemoration ceremony of the first anniversary of martyrdom of Mostafa Chamran yesterday, in Esfahan, referred to the development in the armed forces after the revolution and said that the internal and external plots, such as the imposed war and the recent Zionist attack against southern Lebanon, were undertaken to damage the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Colonel Shirazi also talked about the operations which led to the liberation of Khorramshahr.

In another part of his speech, Sayyad Shirazi outlined the Iranian conditions for peace with Baghdad and said that the Iranian combatants were ready to remove Saddam and his colleagues.

Referring to the recent trip of the Iranian delegation to Syria and negotiations concerning the aggression of the Zionist regime against southern Lebanon he said that Iran and Syria have established Al-Quds station [as received] between Syria and Lebanon which would be the centre of Muslims operation.

He then referred to Saddam's plot and said that despite the recent conspiracies of Saddam, Iran did not consider the war as being concluded and would continue the war until the overthrow of Saddam, and holding prayers in Karbala'. Treading the path to Al-Quds would then be the next step, Colonel Shirazi concluded.

GUARDS: CONTINUE WAR UNTIL IRAQI REGIME FALLS

LD222210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps issued a statement on the important speech delivered yesterday by the imam of the nation, who revealed the conspiracy of world imperialism about the savage attack on Lebanon in order to save Saddam and to make us forget the war against the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq. The statement says:

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps regards it as its binding duty to continue the war until the complete downfall of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq. It will continue until the holy cities, such as the Karbala' of Hoseyn and holy An-Najaf, are liberated, until the Muslim people of Iraq are freed from the claws of the Ba'thist mercenaries who are dependent upon world arrogance, and until the savage crimes of this dependent regime and the bombing of cities such as Abadan and Ilam and other residential areas are ended.

KHOMEYNI BRIEFED BY ZAHIRNEZHAD, OTHERS

LD221418 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Brig Gen Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, today met with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and commander in chief, and submitted a report to the imam of the nation on the latest events and developments at the fronts of the war imposed by Iraq on Iran.

According to the same report, Mr Musavi-Tabrizi, the Islamic revolution prosecutor general, met this morning with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and submitted a report to the imam of the nation on his visit to the provinces of Western and Eastern Azarbayjan.

The Friday imam of Esfahan also met today with Imam Khomeyni. Mr Sa'id Amani, a Tehran deputy in the Islamic Consulative Assembly, together with several trustees of the Tehran bazaar, also met today with Imam Khomeyni. Mr Tayyeb the Na'in deputy in the Islamic Consultative Assembly, also met today with the imam of the nation.

TEHRAN EXAMINES CRITERIA OF VICTORY IN WAR

GF220906 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The criteria of winning and losing in any battle are dependent upon the extent of accomplishment of the objectives of the war. Victory in any battle is the outcome of the military and political efficacy to achieve all objectives. If we want to apply this fact to the hostile Saddam war and wonder, in light of the primary results of the battles during the past 20 months, who the victor is in this war, we can reach a clear conclusion about the result of this hostile war.

The flimsy Saddam regime every time announces that it is the alltime victor. When Saddam unleashed his tyrannical aggression against the peaceful Muslim people he said he was the victor, and when he changed from offensive to defensive he claimed he was the victor too. When his fortresses and castles tumbled down and when he was forced to knuckle under the status quo which was imposed by the consecutive blows of the soldiers of Islam, he insolently announced that he was the victor as well.

Today, when he announced his withdrawal, he declared without the least shame that he is the victor in this war. Query: Who won this war?

Aside from the circle of empty expressions and lustrous slogans and pursuing a logical analysis based on the opinions of strategists, we find that the Baghdad rulers have achieved nothing by their tryannical aggression.

In fact, what they have gained was the opposite of what they aimed at during the war. They aimed at liquidating the Islamic revolution and forcing it into two alternatives: either to surrender in return for the withdrawal of the Ba'thist Saddam forces from the Iranian territory or be militarily defeated, thus ending the era of the Islamic revolution.

Today, after all Saddam's attempts have failed to justify his tyrannical aggression, Saddam claimed that the Islamic Republic has expansionist ambitions regarding Iraqi territory. As for his withdrawal from the territories he had occupied, it is a political trick to hide his military disability and contain his outright defeat in the war. Here, a long pause before this decision is required [to tackle two aspects]: First, the reasons which made the Islamic Republic give up liberating the rest of territories for a specific period of time and second, the reasons which made Saddam make this decision.

The first pause presents the humanitarian policy of the Islamic forces in regaining the occupied territores. The Islamic military command has set a main objective in its military operations. This objective was to keep the size of human and material losses of both parties as low as possible.

Therefore, the command set its military plan in two phases: First, the orientation and guidance of the Iraqi forces positioned in the occupied territories and the exposure of the dimensions of the conspiracy against Islam which they are carrying out against their will.

In the second phase, when the Iraqi Army becomes educated as required, the Islamic forces carry out an operation to establish contact with the troops of the Iraqi Army so they can easily give up to the Islamic forces as a result of the education they attain in the first phase.

By this method, the Islamic Republic has guaranteed minimal losses in life and property with the motivation to end the war without shedding the respected blood that was meant to bleed for free at the threshold of the U.S.-Zionist conspiracy. Therefore, every liberation or purging operation by the Islamic forces lasted for brief intervals.

The tyrannical enemy has realized the dimensions of this humanitarian plan and wanted to keep what is left of his self-respect, because undoubtedly he knows that the Islamic forces are marching toward the rest of the usurped territories and that he will pay a high price for his presence in these territories, equal to the price he paid in Khorramshahr. Therefore, he has decided to flee before he receives the decisive fatal blow.

This final result which the Baghdad rulers have announced raises a very important question: Did they really win this war as they claim? Have the Baghdad rulers achieved their objective of overthrowing the Islamic Republic? Or has their unsuccessful venture enhanced the military and political leverage of the Islamic Republic after the magnificent victories the republic has achieved on different [word indistinct] fronts?

The victor in this war is whoever achieved his objectives. It is our Muslim people of Iran who decided to wage the war until they liberated the land from the stooges of colonialists and taught the Saddam regime a lesson it will never forget. This is what has been really achieved, and this is precisely what makes our people in the field of victory proud and they hold their heads high, showing the sign of victory and glory.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 952

LD221738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Communique No 952 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We wish to inform our dear Muslim compatriots of events on the battlefronts of good against evil during the past 24 hours:

Yesterday, on the country's western fronts, an exchange of artillery and heavy-weapon fire took place between our forces and those of the enemy. The enemy's losses and casualties were as follows:

On the Gilan-e Gharb to Salehabad fronts: Three vehicles and several supply points were destroyed and seven trucks and a parking lot belonging to the Saddamists were damaged.

In the Harginah, Biarreh and Halabcheh garrison regions in Iraq, huge losses and casualties were also inflicted on enemy positions.

On the fronts under the responsibility of the heroic irregular tribal warfare units and the gendarmerie combatants, sporadic exchange of fire also continued.

According to a report by the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, thanks to heavy-artillery fire by Islam's combatants on the positions of the aggressive Saddamists on one of the country's western fronts, the Iraqi forces were forced to change their defensive positions after suffering heavy losses and casualties.

In an exchange of fire on the Khorramshahr and Abadan fronts our naval heroes and gendarmerie combatants opened fire on enemy positions. They silenced the enemy's fire, destroyed more than five light- and heavy-weapon emplacements and observation posts, killed or wounded a number of enemy servicemen and prevented their activities.

During the past 24 hours, parts of Abadan and Khorramshahr came under artillery and heavy-weapon fire from the Iraqi Ba'thist forces; as a result, 5 houses were destroyed and 11 people were wounded.

During the past 24 hours all aggressive enemy airraids were neutralized by the antiaircraft units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRAQI PLANES VIOLATE ILAM AIRSPACE 21 JUNE

LD222028 Tehran IRNA in English 1957 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Ilam, June 22, IRNA -- Some aggressor Iraqi fighter planes which violated Ilam's airspace at a very high altitude Monday night were forced to flee without carrying out any mission.

Since the so called unilateral ceasefire recently announced by the Iraqi Ba'thist regime, aggressor Iraqi aircraft have constantly carried out several air raids against Ilam Province. All these attacks, attempting to bomb the residential areas of Ilam, have been foiled by the air defence units of the Islamic Republic.

GUARDS KILL IRAQI COMMANDER IN ILAM 20 JUNE

LD222030 Tehran IRNA in English 2002 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Ilam, June 22, IRNA -- One of the commanders of the Iraqi Ba'thist army, who was inspecting the aggressor forces stationed on the Mehran front of Ilam Province, was shot dead by the Islamic revolutionary guards on Sunday.

On the Ilam fronts, exchanges of fire persisted over the 24 hours preceding Tuesday. In these operations, the Islamic defenders, holding the upper hand, pounded more than 10 enemy trenches and watch posts as well as killing or wounding some Iraqi soldiers.

VELAYATI MEETS WITH OUTGOING CUBAN ENVOY

LD221830 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Cuban ambassador in Tehran met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati this morning.

During this meeting, the Cuban ambassador, while referring to the recent remarks made by the imam, asked for Iran's views on the retreat of Saddam's forces from Iranian territory.

In reply, Mr Velayati said: Saddam's forced withdrawal is only one of our conditions for ending the war; and the war will continue until the other conditions are realized.

On the basis of the same report, the Cuban ambassador, whose term of office in Iran ended -- he was appointed head of the Middle East and North Africa Department in the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations -- today met and conferred with Mr Ahmad 'Azizi, deputy minister of foreign affairs.

During this meeting, the Cuban ambassador expressed hope that the opening of the newly established Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Havana and the new possibilities which were created in relations between the two countries, would help in expanding relations between the two countries.

The deputy minister of foreign affairs, in reply, said: No doubt this period spent here was effective in making you familiar with the three basic and triangular foundations which are the secret of the steadfastness and livelihood of the Islamic revolution: Islam, the imam and the nation.

Mr 'Azizi added: Certainly, during your term of office, you found out that in the Islamic Republic ideological considerations are greater than the usual political and economic considerations. You witnessed the reflection of this priority in the decisive and noncompromising attitude of the Islamic revolution vis-a-vis conspiracies of world arrogance; the imposed war was an example of this.

The deputy foreign minister, in conclusion, while expressing hope for expanding relations between the two nations, said: No doubt the Government of Cuba and any other government, by making use of this fact and by a sincere understanding of our positions, can lay down foundations for more healthy and constructive relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran on the basis of mutual interests.

VELAYATI MEETS WITH PRC AMBASSADOR 21 JUNE

LD211114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jun 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the PRC ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran met and conferred with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today. At this meeting the relations between the two countries and the history of these relations were discussed.

KURDS REPORTEDLY KILL 85 GUARDS IN MIANDO'AB

GF221646 (Cladestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] Some 200 Kurdish fighters in northwest Miando'ab, situated in Western Azerbayjan, during attacks on camps of the revolution guards, killed more than 85 guards of the Khomeyni regime.

According to a report by our correspondent, while this bloody skirmish resulted in the deaths of 85 revolution guards of the Khomeyni regime, Khomeyni's propaganda organs claimed that the revolution guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran killed 60 Kurdish rebels.

The revolution guards, besides suffering many losses, (?left behind a great quantity of arms and equipment) and fled from their camps and took refuge at army bases in the area.

A Kurdish spokesman told the Free Voice of Iran correspondent that the Kurdish fighters have abstained from attacking these military organizations because the military brothers do not cooperate with the revolution guards against Kurdish forces and also help the Kurdish fighters in times of need.

ARREST OF 'CRIMINAL' QASHQA'I LEADERS REPORTED

LD221808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Jun 82

[Text] According to a report by the Central News Unit, the Public Relations Office of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps issued a statement about the arrest of Khosrow Qashqa'i [leader of the Qashqa'i tribe] and a few other assailants, as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Continuing efforts to cut off the roots of corruption and germs of mischief by the self-sacrificing defenders of the Islamic revolution, the self-sacrificing members of the Guards Corps, with the cooperation of the brothers from the Islamic revolution prosecutor general's office and with the support and cooperation of the Muslim and brave tribesmen of Fars region, succeeded in capturing a number of assailants and dependent and criminal tribal leaders and their hypocrite collaborators.

During these operations, two of the main leaders of the hypocrites, who acted as links between this hypocrite terrorist minigroup and tribal leaders and assailants of the region, were killed and another was arrested.

In these operations the hiding place of Khosrow Qashqa'i and a few other blood-sucking and mercenary leaders was discovered.

For many years they sucked the blood of the oppressed and deprived tribesmen and signs of their numerous crimes and oppression can be seen in the faces of deprived tribesmen and villagers. He and nine other tribal leaders from the Fars region were arrested by the defenders of the Islamic revolution.